

# ***NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center***



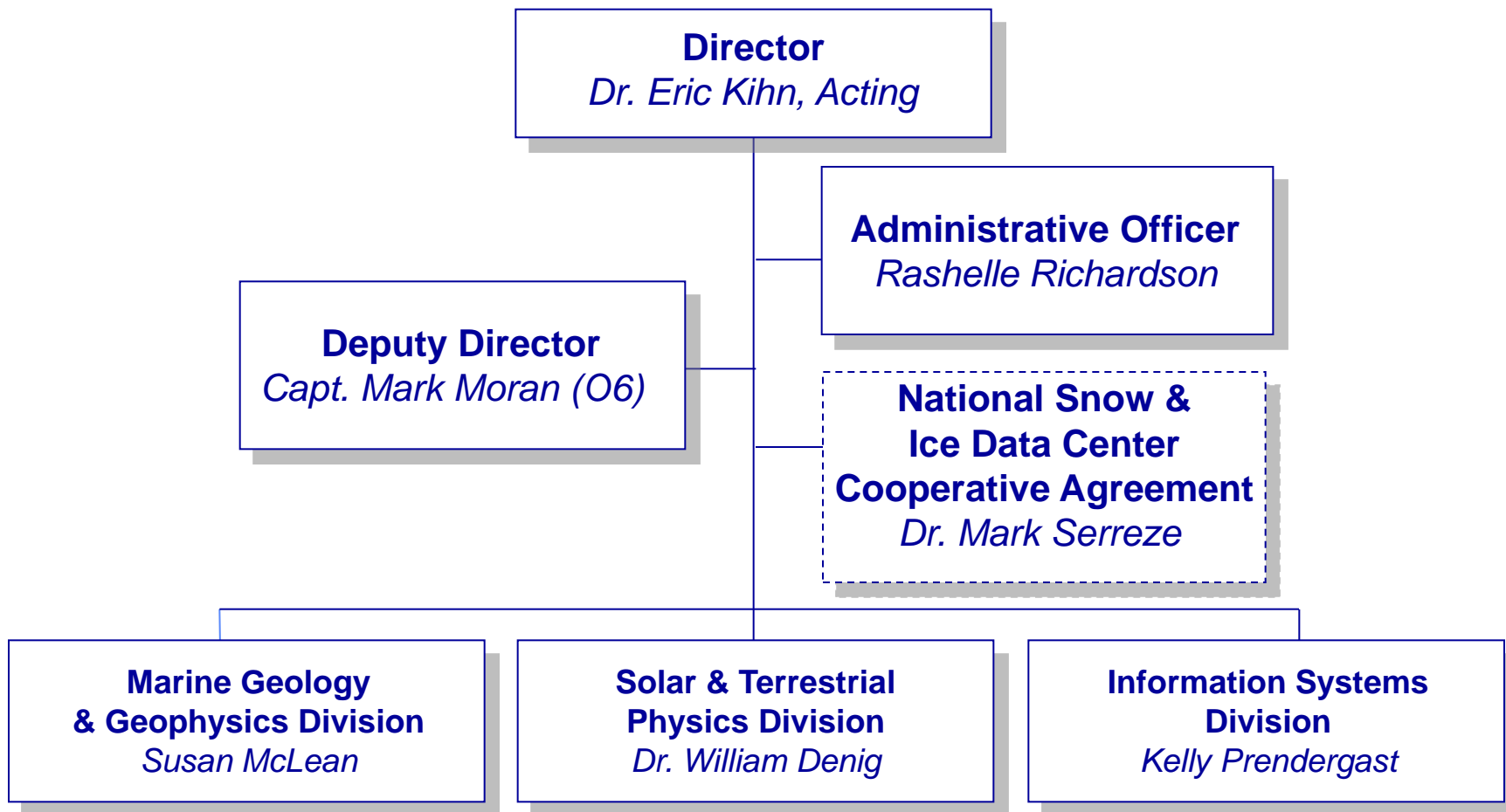
## **NOAA/NESDIS/NGDC's Space Based Observations and Capabilities**

**Eric A. Kihn, Acting Director  
National Geophysical Data Center**



# NGDC Organizational Chart

## National Geophysical Data Center





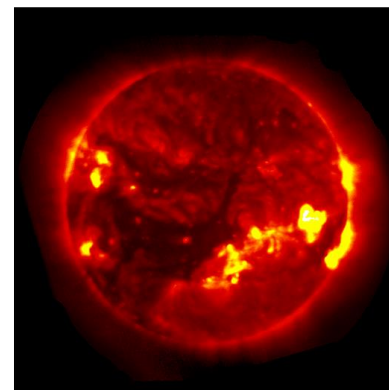
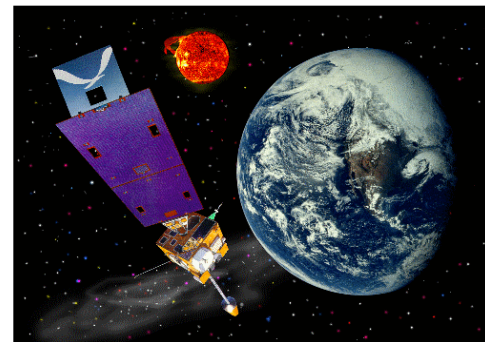
# Space Weather Team

## Current Satellite Programs

### Archiving Operational Space Weather Satellite Data

#### GOES Space Environment Monitor

- Geosynchronous Orbit, Since 1974
- Elements: In Situ Magnetic Fields  
Whole Sun X-ray Flux  
Energetic Particles



#### GOES Solar X-ray Imager – GOES 12-15

- X-ray Images taken every minute

#### POES/MetOp Energetic Particle Detector

- Polar Low Earth Orbit
- Energetic Particles Archived Since **1979**



#### Also DMSP Space Weather Sensors

- F16-18, SSIES/SSJ/SSM
- Processed data received from AFRL

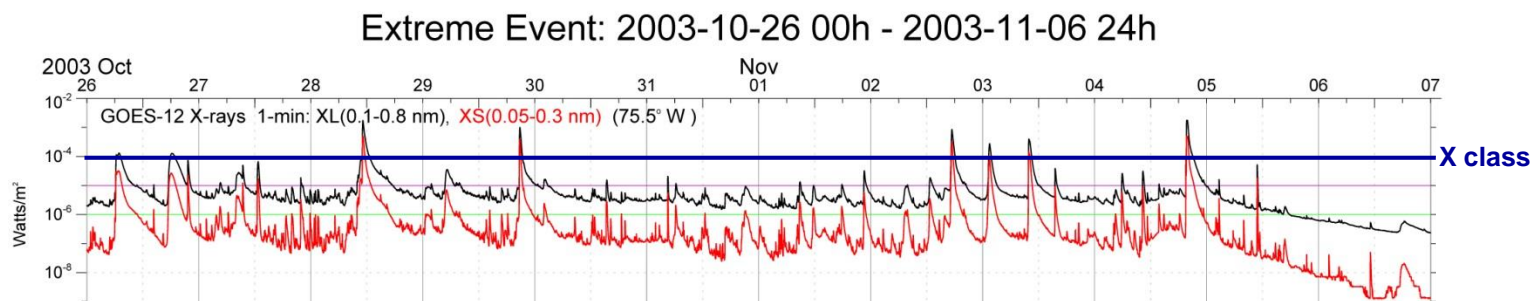




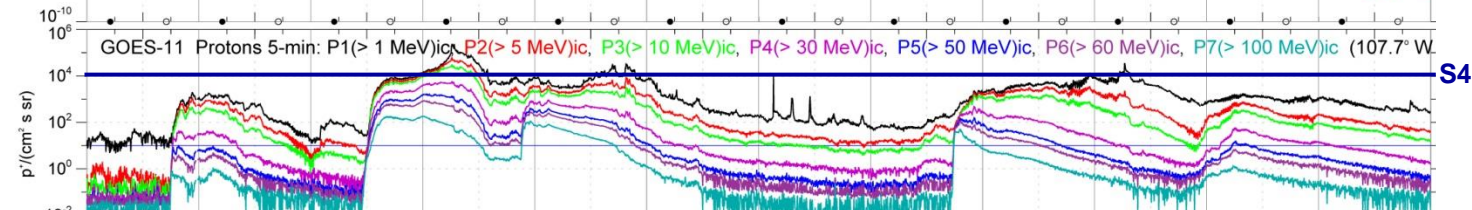
# GOES Environmental Data

## 40 Years of Geostationary Measurements

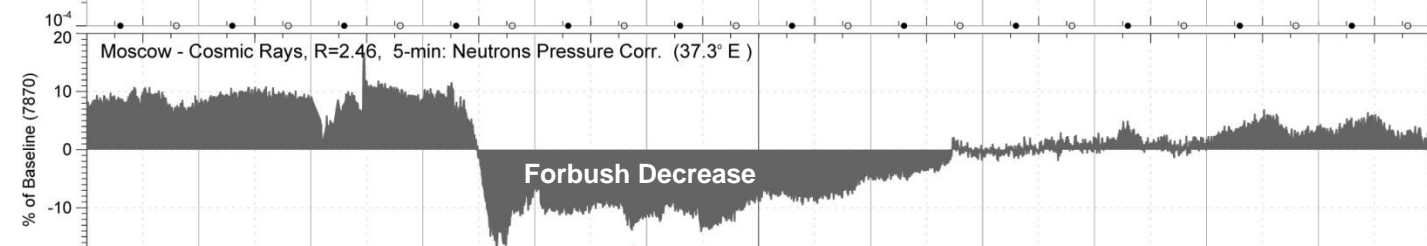
Solar  
X-Rays



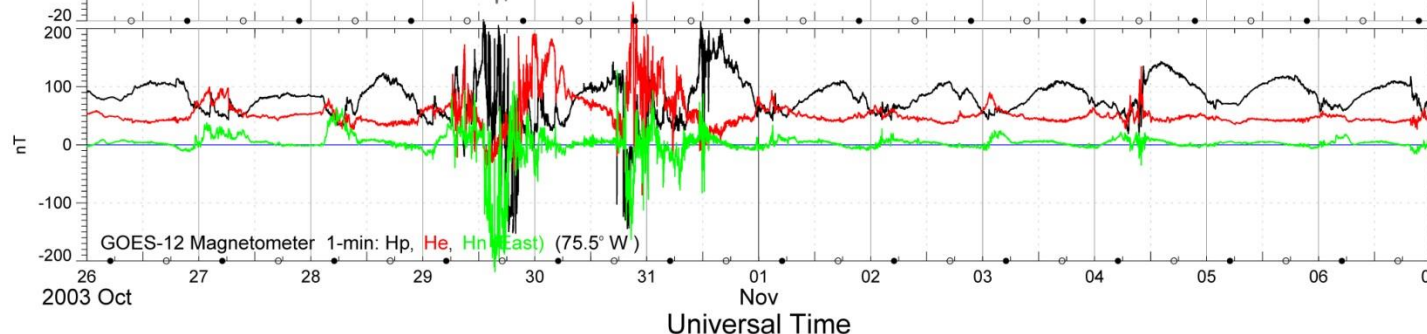
Proton  
Events



Cosmic  
Rays  
(non-GOES)



Magnetic  
Field



ver: 2012-04-23 14:34:00 UT



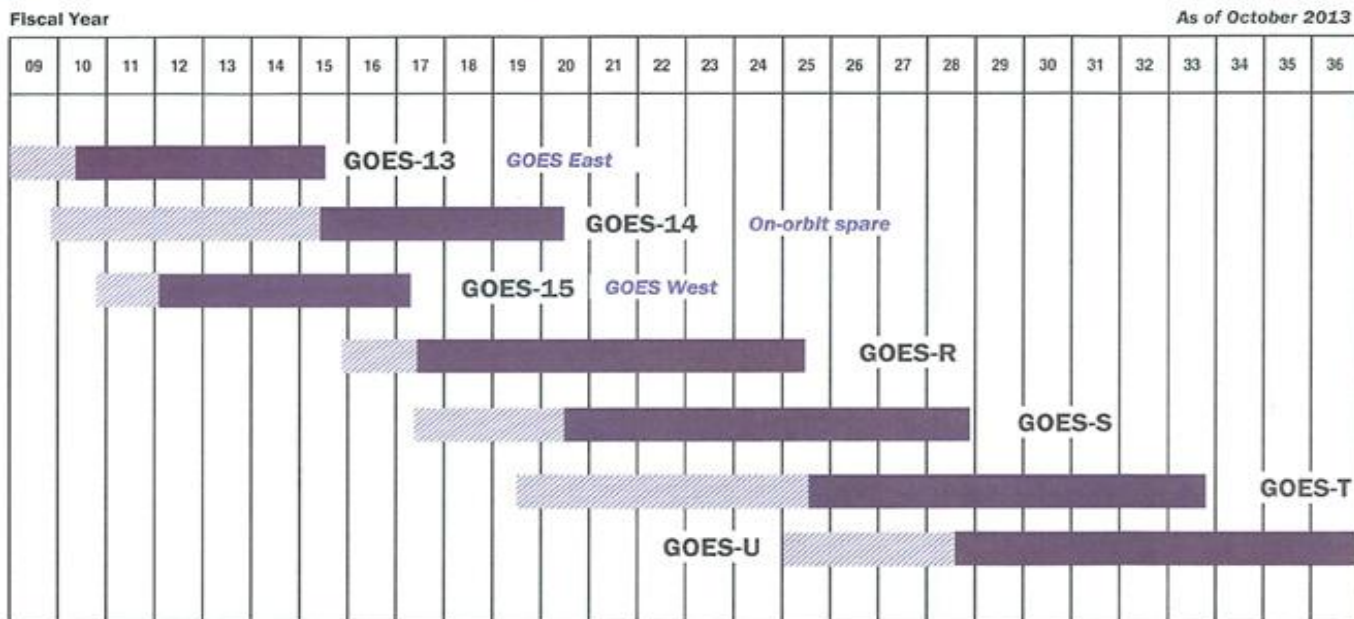


# Continuity of GEO Measurements

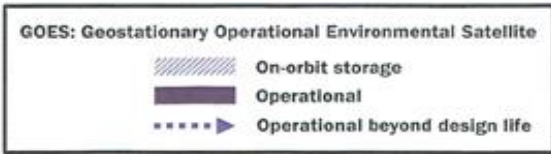
## Transitioning to GOES-R/S/T/U



### Continuity of GOES Mission



Approved: *Mary E. Kuciper*  
Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services





# GOES-R (R/S/T/U) Series

## Improved SWx Capabilities

The GOES-R series space/solar sensors provide incremental improvements to current NOAA GEO space weather monitoring. First launch date of the GOES-R series is late 2015 / early 2016.



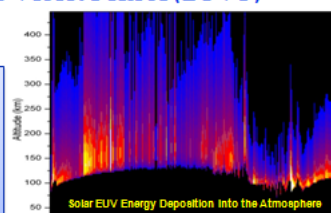
Credit: Lockheed-Martin

### Solar X-Ray Sensor (XRS)

- Measures the irradiance (total brightness) of the sun in two x-ray channels
  - 0.05 to 0.4 nm
  - 0.1 to 0.8 nm
- Provides a first alert of impending solar storms and space weather events.
- Observes solar flares and provides absolute brightness information.
- Drives space weather scales and operational models.

### Solar Extreme Ultra-Violet Sensor (EUVS)

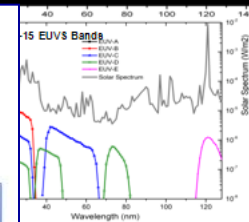
- Observations of the Solar EUV Spectrum from 5 to 125 nm
- Provides solar EUV input to thermosphere and ionosphere models which provide specification and forecasts
- Models provide specification and



5 s averages for both long and short channels  
the ratio of the short over long channels  
action with one-minute data  
ground  
station

### Solar Ultra-Violet Imager (SUVI)

- Completely Different than GOES NOP:
- GOES NOP SXI observes in x-rays (0.8-6 nm)
  - SUVI will observe in the Extreme Ultra-Violet (EUV) (10-30 nm)
  - Narrow band EUV imaging: Permits better discrimination between features of different temperatures
  - 30.4 nm band adds capability to detect filaments and their eruptions
  - 6 wavelengths (9.4, 13.1, 17.1, 19.5, 28.4, and 30.4 nm) 2 minute refresh for full dynamic range
- SUVI will provide
- Flare location information (Forecasting event arrival time and geo-effectiveness)
  - Active region complexity (Flare forecasting)
  - Coronal hole specification (High speed solar wind forecasting)



Increased # of wavelength bands

### Space Environment In-situ Sensor Suite SEISS

Four Subsystems  
Measuring Electrons, Protons, and Heavier Particles

#### MPS-Low: Spacecraft charging, ground-induced currents (electric power grid)

- 30eV-30keV electrons
- 30eV-30keV protons
- 14 angular bins

#### MPS-High: Spacecraft charging, deep dielectric charging

- 40keV-4MeV electrons
- 80keV-10MeV protons
- 10 energy bands at 5 angles

#### SGPS: Solar Energetic Particle events (SEP), solar radiation storms (protons), HF communication (airlines), astronaut radiation, satellite degradation.

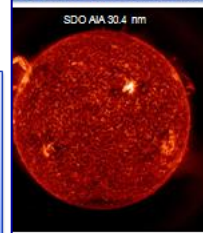
- 1 MeV-500MeV protons
- 4MeV-500MeV alphas
- 10 energy bands at 2 angles

#### EHS: Satellite single event upsets, astronaut radiation

- 10MeV/nucleon-200MeV/nucleon
- Distinguishes H, He, C-N-O, Ne-S and the Fe group, Z=17-28
- 5 energy bands

SEISS Algorithms  
SEISS.16: One-minute averages - all MPS channels  
SEISS.17: Five-minute averages - all MPS and SGPS channels  
SEISS.18: Convert differential proton flux values to integral flux values  
SEISS.19: Density & temperature moments & level of spacecraft charging  
SEISS.20: Event detection based on flux values

provides improved proxy data:  
many pixels as SUVI  
coverage  
in 8 EUV bands, 5 of which match SUVI exactly



Solar UV imagery  
versus soft x-rays

Improved particle  
energy coverage





# GOES-R Space Weather

## Space Weather L2+ Product Overview

### Product Set 1 Complete

XRS.04: One-minute averages for both long and short channels  
EUVS.03: One-minute averages of broad spectral bands  
SEISS.16: One-minute averages - all MPS channels  
SEISS.17: Five-minute averages - all MPS and SGPS channels  
SEISS.18: Convert differential proton flux values to integral flux values  
MAG.07: MAG data in alternate geophysical coordinate systems  
MAG.08: One-minute averages  
MAG.09: Comparison to quiet fields  
SUVI.07: Composite (wide dynamic range) images  
SUVI.09 and .10: Fixed and running difference images

### Product Set 2 Complete

XRS.05: Calculate the ratio of the short over long channels  
XRS.09: Daily Background  
XRS.07: Event Detection with one-minute data  
EUVS.03D: Daily averages of broad spectral bands  
EUVS.04: Event Detection  
SEISS.19: Density and temperature moments and level of spacecraft charging  
MAG.10: Magnetopause crossing detection  
SUVI.12: Coronal Hole Images  
SUVI.19: Thematic Map

Legacy Product  
New Product

### Product Set 3 In Process

XRS.10: Flare Location  
EUVS.05: Multi-wavelength Proxy  
SEISS.20: Event detection based on flux values  
MAG.12: Sudden Impulse (SI) detection  
SUVI.13: Bright Region Data  
SUVI.14: Flare Location (XFL) Reports  
SUVI.15: Coronal Hole Boundaries

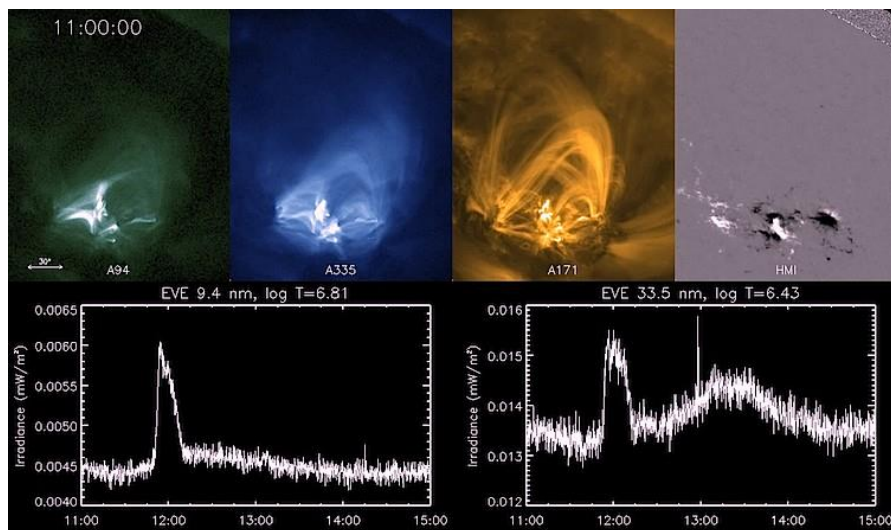
*Algorithms leverage new sensor capabilities and extended environmental ranges.*

- 26 Level 2+ Space Weather Products in three product sets
- 18 are operational legacy, 8 are new or have experimental heritage

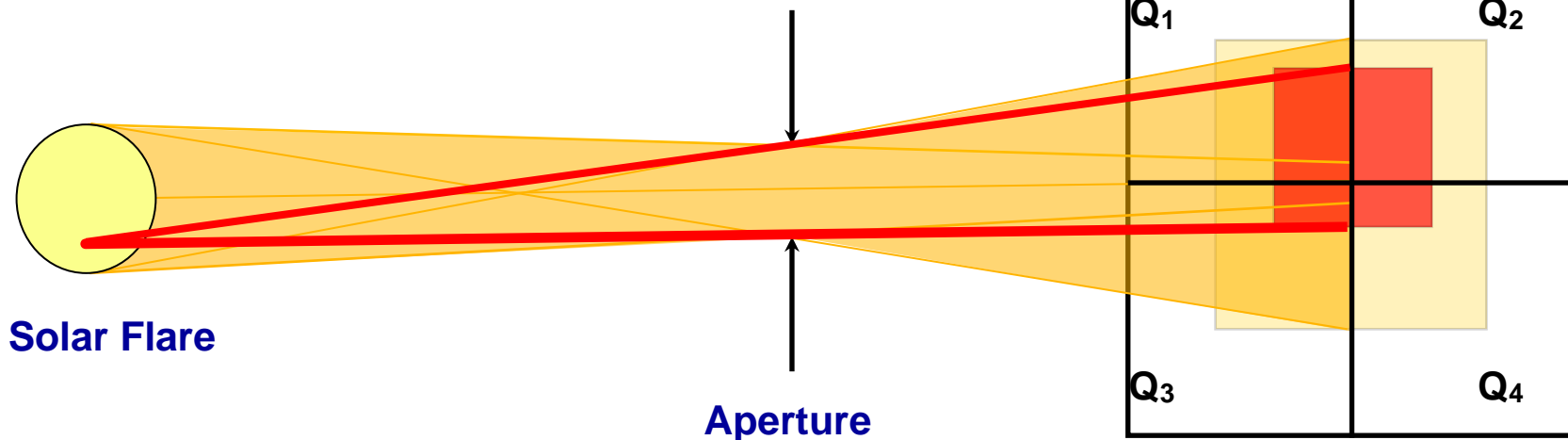


# GOES-R Space Weather

## XRS.10 Flare Location



New quad-diode XRS design will provide an ability to locate solar flares on the disk. Algorithm will automate the locations of solar flares to aid in predicting impacts to earth-based and satellite systems.

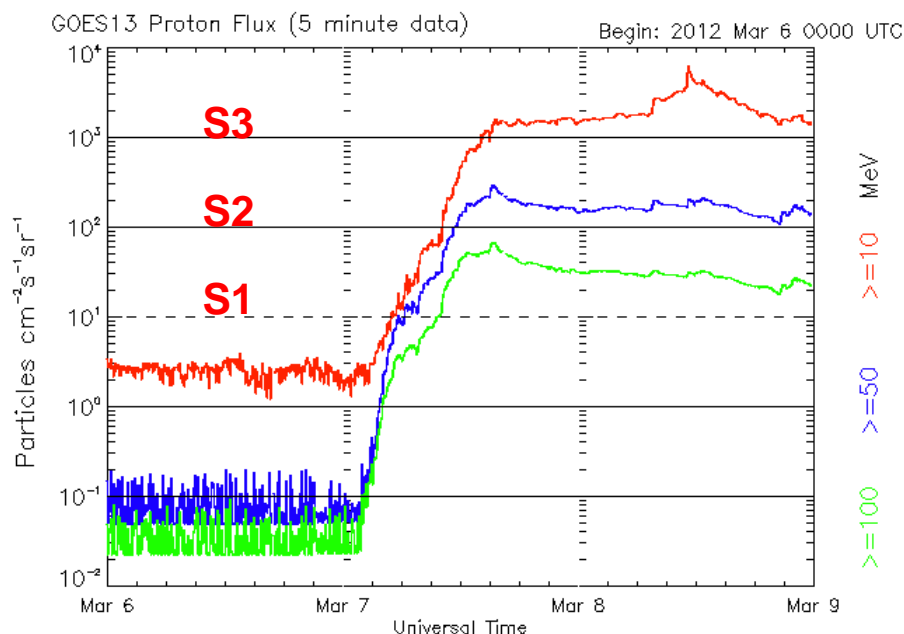






# GOES-R Space Weather XRS.10 Flare Location

Algorithm will report all event detection parameters, peak fluxes and event fluences based on SEISS SGPS measurements. Adding a rate of rise quantity to the event onset detection will enhance the algorithm's prediction capabilities.



## NOAA Space Weather Scales



Category	Effect	Physical measure	Average Frequency (1 cycle = 11 years)
Scale	Descriptor	Duration of event will influence severity of effects	
<b>Geomagnetic Storms</b>			
G 5	Extreme Power systems: widespread voltage control problems and protective system problems can occur, some grid systems may experience complete collapse or blackouts. Transformers may experience damage. Spacecraft operations: may experience extensive surface charging, problems with orientation, uplink/downlink and tracking satellites. Other systems: pipeline currents can reach hundreds of amps, HF (high frequency) radio propagation may be impossible in many areas for one to two days, satellite navigation may be degraded for two days, low-frequency radio navigation can be out for hours, and aurora has been seen as low as Florida and southern Texas (typically 40° geomagnetic lat.).**	Kp=9	4 per cycle (4 days per cycle)
G 4	Severe Power systems: possible widespread voltage control problems and some protective systems will mistakenly trip out key assets from the grid. Spacecraft operations: may experience surface charging and tracking problems, corrections may be needed for orientation problems. Other systems: induced pipeline currents affect preventive measures, HF radio propagation sporadic, satellite navigation degraded for hours, low-frequency radio navigation disrupted, and aurora has been seen as low as Alabama and northern California (typically 45° geomagnetic lat.).**	Kp=8	100 per cycle (60 days per cycle)
G 3	Strong Power systems: voltage corrections may be required, false alarms triggered on some protection devices. Spacecraft operations: surface charging may occur on satellite components, drag may increase on low-Earth-orbit satellites, and corrections may be needed for orientation problems. Other systems: intermittent satellite navigation and low-frequency radio navigation problems may occur, HF radio may be intermittent, and aurora has been seen as low as Illinois and Oregon (typically 50° geomagnetic lat.).**	Kp=7	200 per cycle (130 days per cycle)
G 2	Moderate Power systems: high-latitude power systems may experience voltage alarms, long-duration storms may cause transformer damage. Spacecraft operations: corrective actions to orientation may be required by ground control; possible changes in drag affect orbit predictions. Other systems: HF radio propagation can fade at higher latitudes, and aurora has been seen as low as New York and Idaho (typically 55° geomagnetic lat.).**	Kp=6	600 per cycle (360 days per cycle)
G 1	Minor Power systems: weak power grid fluctuations can occur. Spacecraft operations: minor impact on satellite operations possible. Other systems: migratory animals are affected at this and higher levels; aurora is commonly visible at high latitudes (northern Michigan and Maine).**	Kp=5	1700 per cycle (900 days per cycle)

\* Based on this measure, but other physical measures are also considered.

\*\* For specific locations around the globe, use geomagnetic latitude to determine likely sightings (see [www.swpc.noaa.gov/Aurora](http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/Aurora)).

<b>Solar Radiation Storms</b>			
S 5	Extreme Biological: unavoidable high radiation hazard to astronauts on EVA (extra-vehicular activity); passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk.*** Satellite operations: satellites may be rendered useless, memory impacts can cause loss of control, may cause serious noise in image data, star-trackers may be unable to locate sources; permanent damage to solar panels possible. Other systems: complete blackout of HF (high frequency) communications possible through the polar regions, and position errors make navigation operations extremely difficult.	Flux level of $\geq 10$ MeV particles (cm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> sr <sup>-1</sup> )	Number of events when flux level was met**
S 4	Severe Biological: unavoidable radiation hazard to astronauts on EVA; passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk.*** Satellite operations: may experience memory device problems and noise on imaging systems; star-trackers problems may cause orientation problems, and solar panel efficiency can be degraded. Other systems: blackout of HF radio communications through the polar regions and increased navigation errors over several days are likely.	$10^2$	3 per cycle
S 3	Strong Biological: radiation hazard avoidance recommended for astronauts on EVA; passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk.*** Satellite operations: single-event upsets, noise in imaging systems, and slight reduction of efficiency in solar panel are likely. Other systems: degraded HF radio propagation through the polar regions and navigation position errors likely.	$10^3$	10 per cycle
S 2	Moderate Satellite operations: infrequent single-event upsets possible. Other systems: effects on HF propagation through the polar regions, and navigation at polar cap locations possibly affected.	$10^4$	25 per cycle
S 1	Minor Biological: none. Satellite operations: none. Other systems: minor impacts on HF radio in the polar regions.	$10^5$	50 per cycle

\* Flux levels are 5 minute averages. Flux in particles s<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> sr<sup>-1</sup>. Based on this measure, but other physical measures are also considered.

\*\* These events can last more than one day.

\*\*\* High energy particle ( $>100$  MeV) are a better indicator of radiation risk to passenger and crews. Pregnant women are particularly susceptible.

<b>Radio Blackouts</b>			
R 5	Extreme HF Radio: Complete HF (high frequency**) radio blackout on the entire sunlit side of the Earth lasting for a number of hours. This results in no HF radio contact with mariners and en route aviators in this sector. Navigation: Low-frequency navigation signals used by maritime and general aviation systems experience outages on the sunlit side of the Earth for many hours, causing loss in positioning. Increased satellite navigation errors in positioning for several hours on the sunlit side of Earth, which may spread into the night side.	GOES X-ray peak brightness by class and by flux X20 ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$ )	Number of events when flux level was met (number of storm days)
R 4	Severe HF Radio: HF radio communication blackout on most of the sunlit side of Earth for one to two hours. HF radio contact lost during this time. Navigation: Outages of low-frequency navigation signals cause increased error in positioning for one to two hours. Minor disruptions of satellite navigation possible on the sunlit side of Earth.	X10 ( $10^{-5}$ )	8 per cycle (8 days per cycle)
R 3	Strong HF Radio: Wide area blackout of HF radio communication, loss of radio contact for about an hour on sunlit side of Earth. Navigation: Low-frequency navigation signals degraded for about an hour.	X1 ( $10^{-6}$ )	175 per cycle (140 days per cycle)
R 2	Moderate HF Radio: Limited blackout of HF radio communication on sunlit side of the Earth, loss of radio contact for tens of minutes. Navigation: Degradation of low-frequency navigation signals for tens of minutes.	M5 ( $5 \times 10^{-7}$ )	350 per cycle (300 days per cycle)
R 1	Minor HF Radio: Weak or minor degradation of HF radio communication on sunlit side of the Earth, occasional loss of radio contact. Navigation: Low-frequency navigation signals degraded for brief intervals.	M1 ( $10^{-7}$ )	2000 per cycle (950 days per cycle)

\* Flux measured in the 0.1-0.8 nm range, in W m<sup>-2</sup>. Based on this measure, but other physical measures are also considered.

\*\* Other frequencies may also be affected by these conditions.

URL: [www.swpc.noaa.gov/NOAAwscales](http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/NOAAwscales)



# An End of an Era (since 1978)

## LEO Space Environmental Monitor (SEM)

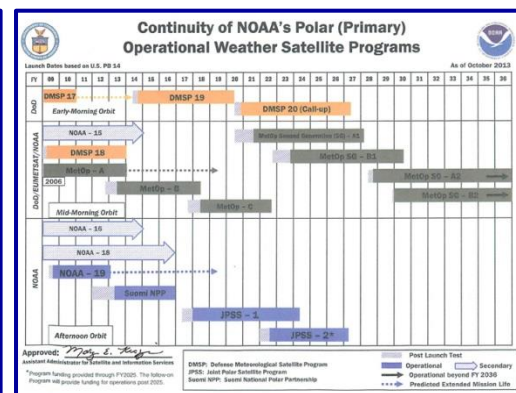
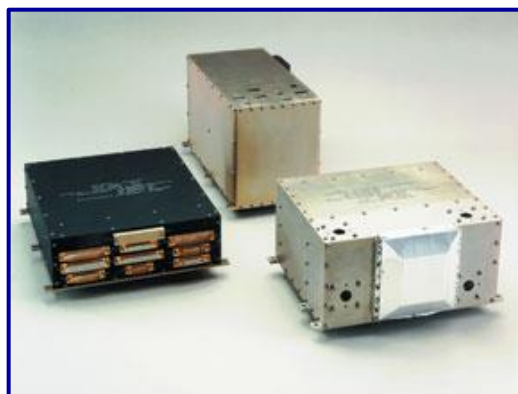
NOAA-19 (POES)

Launched: 08 Feb 2009



<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/satellite/poes/index.html>

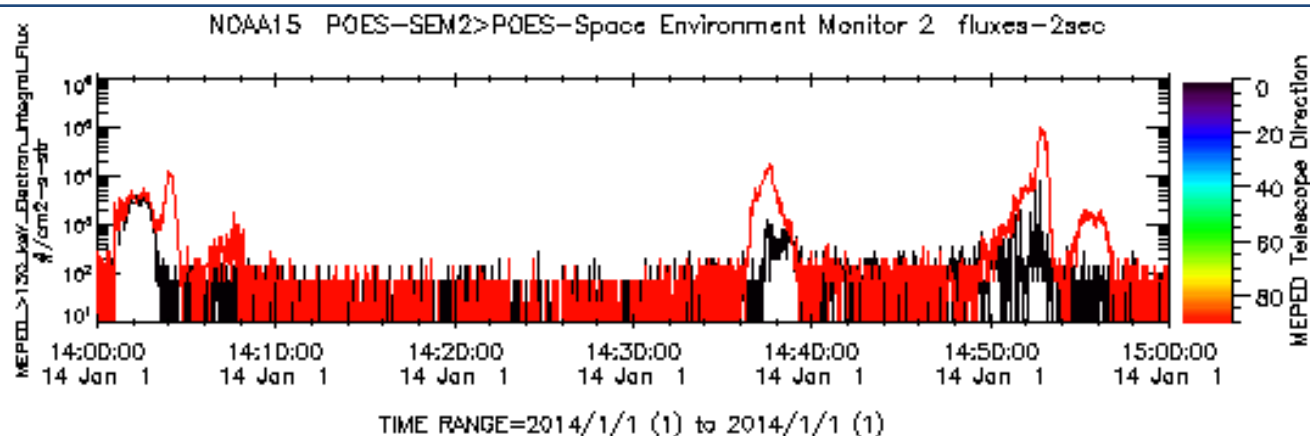
- NOAA-19 is the last NOAA satellite in polar LEO to provide operational SWx data
  - NOAA-19 Extended EOL – CY19
  - NOAA-15/16/18 still provide SEM data
- European MetOp satellites carry NOAA SEM-2 packages
  - MetOp A – CY2006 – 2014 (SEM-2)
  - MetOp B – CY2013 – 2018 (SEM-2)
  - MetOp C – CY2018 – 2022 (SEM-2)





# Secondary Provider

## Coordinated Data Analysis Web



Please acknowledge data provider, NGDC and SWPC at NOAA and CDAWeb when using these data.  
Generated by CDAWeb on Tue Jan 14 10:40:18 2014

***New NOAA datasets will soon be available via CDAWeb***

**NOAA15/16/18/19; MetOp-A/MetOp-B**

**MEPED: e: >40; >130; >287; >612 keV**

**p: 39; 115; 332; 1105; 2723 keV**

**TED: e: 50 eV – 1 keV; 1 keV – 20 keV**

**p: 50 eV – 1 keV; 1 keV – 20 keV**

**integral energy flux**

**differential energy flux**

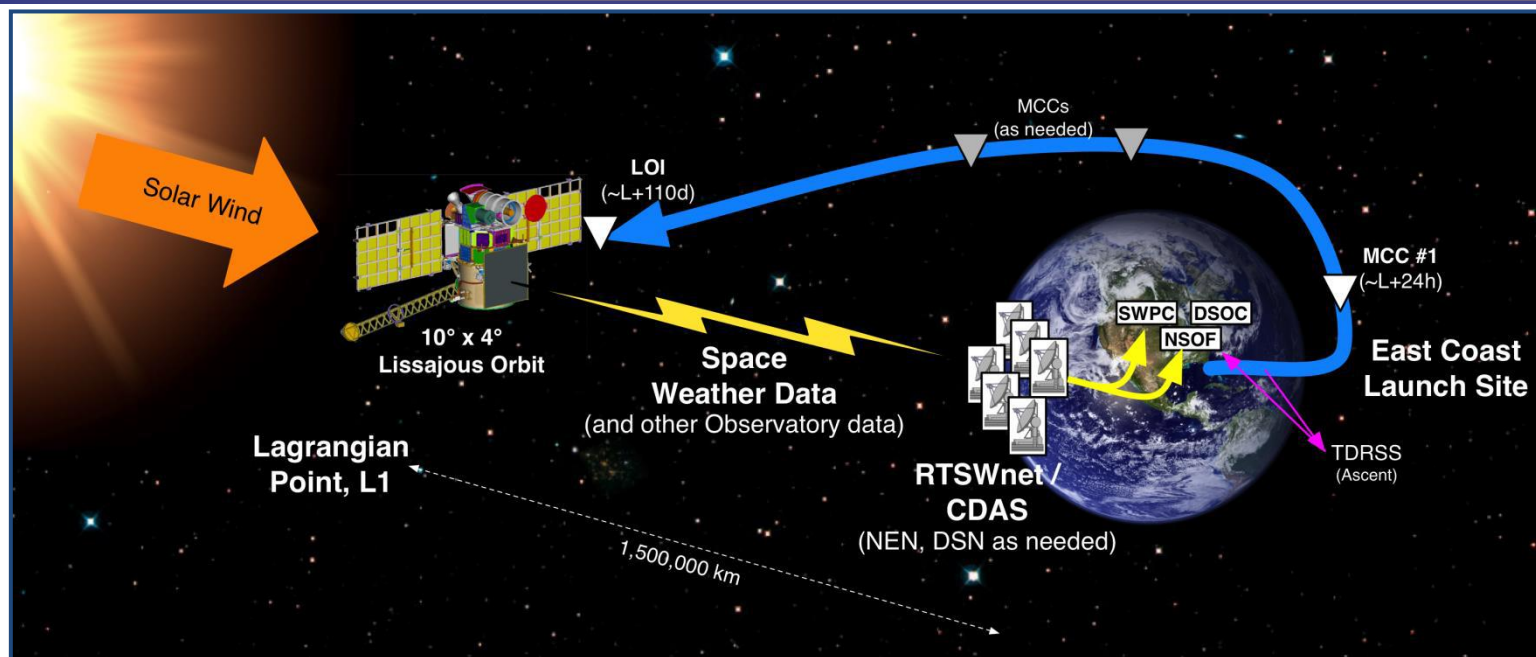
**channel energy flux**

**channel energy flux**

Contact [Rob Redmon](#) or [Bob McGuire](#) for details

# New Capability

## Operational SWx Data from L1



- The DSCOVR spacecraft will measure the solar wind ( $n_p$ ,  $v_p$ ,  $t_p$ ) and the interplanetary magnetic field at 240  $R_e$  forward of the earth
- Space-X Falcon 9 launch scheduled for 13 Jan 2015; DSCOVR on-station in 110 days
- DSCOVR solar wind/IMF data downlinked via the Real-Time Solar Wind Network (RTSWnet) as is currently done for ACE
- SWPC provides real-time data / NGDC provides retrospective data (>1 day)



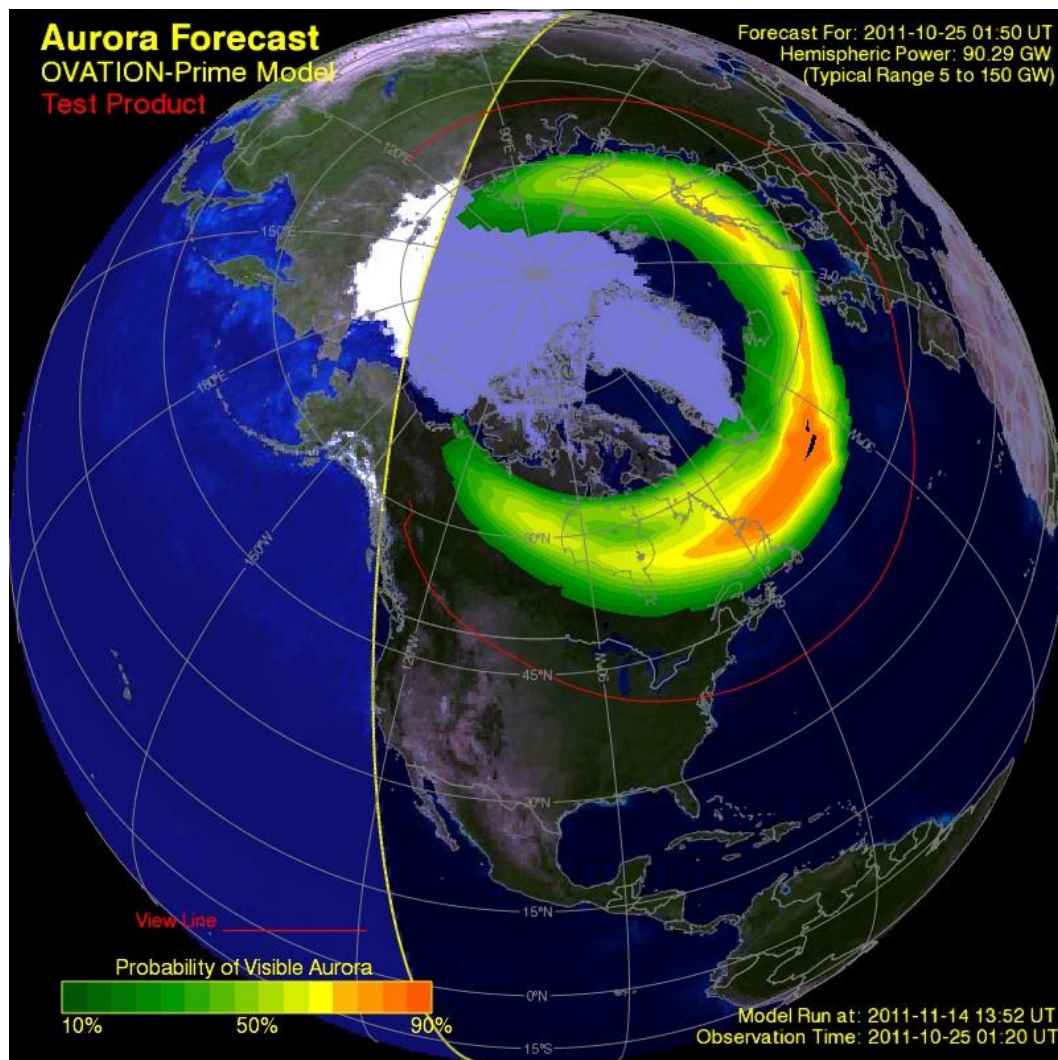
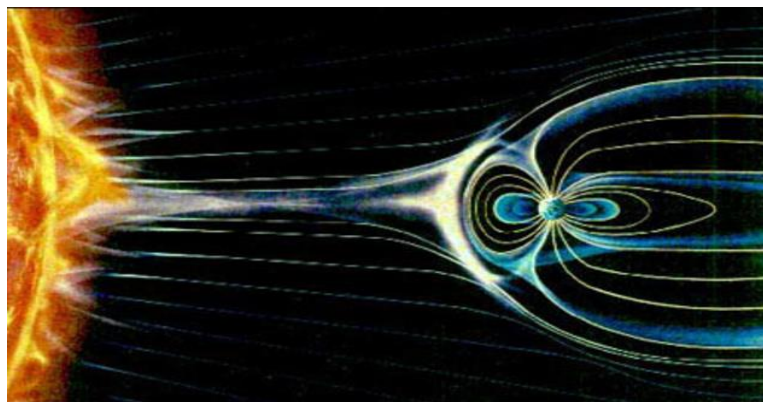


# Expanded Products and Services

## Ovation Auroral Forecast Model



- Methodology developed at JHU/APL
  - 30-40 min forecast driven by ACE solar wind and interplanetary magnetic field data – **ops will transition to DSCOVR**
  - Model currently running in real-time at NGDC – [link](#)
  - Customer products available from SWPC – [link](#)
- Plans:
  - Transition Ovation to full operations in March 2014
  - Test and implement model upgrades for reduced noise and capability to handle larger storms





# **DSCOV Follow-on**

## **Operational Solar Wind / CME Imagery Missions**

**NOAA is committed to continued solar wind/CME monitoring**

### Solar Wind – Commercial and other options:

- Evaluate Sunjammer mission performance data for improved space weather forecasts
- Evaluate business case for Sunjammer commercial data buy option
- Examine sensor concepts for improved sensor performance
- Refresh cost estimates for other options such as government satellites

### CME Imagery

- Continue CCOR risk reduction studies at NRL
- Pursuing STP launch option
- Include CME imagery option in DSCOV follow-on studies

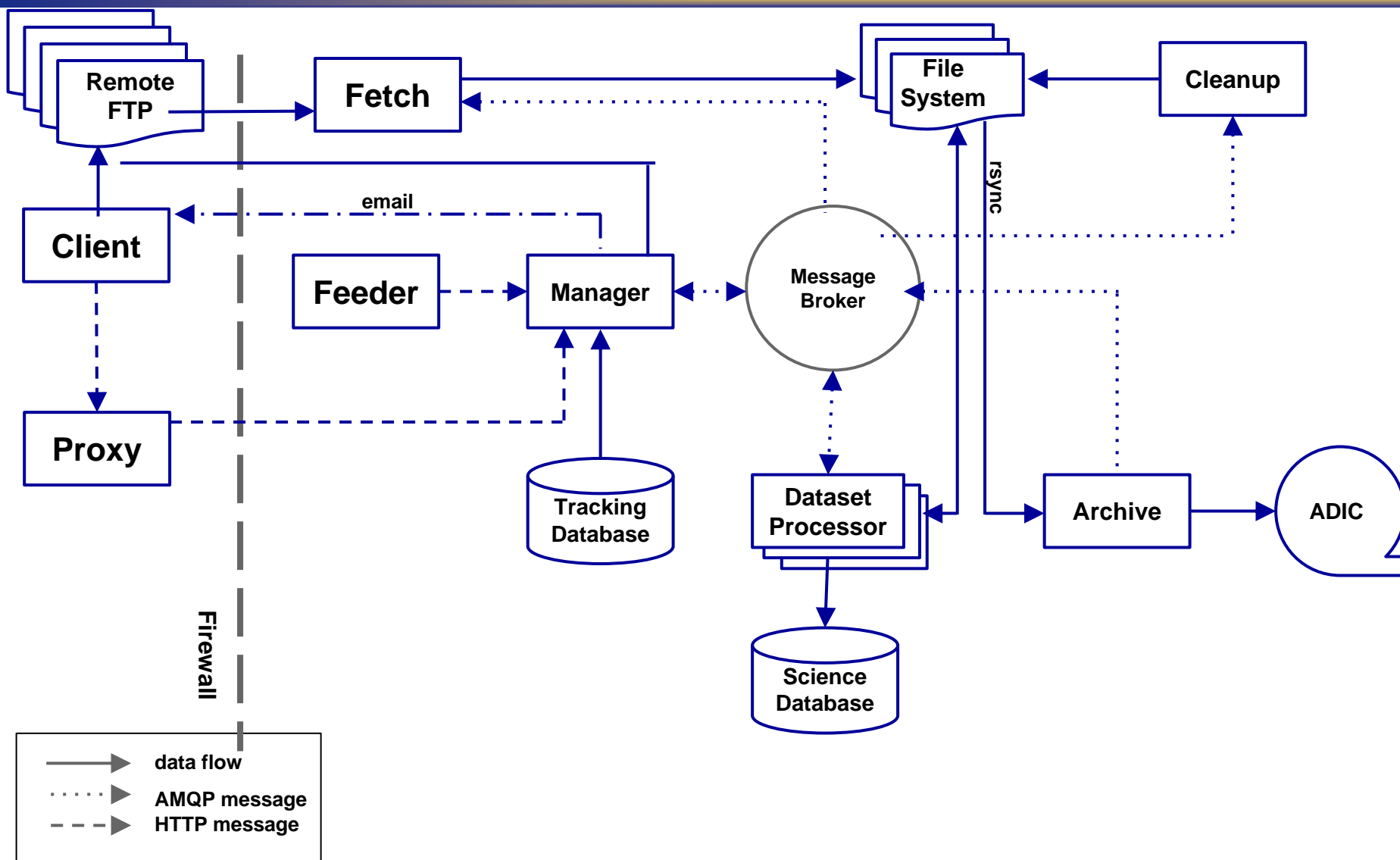


# Infrastructure Development





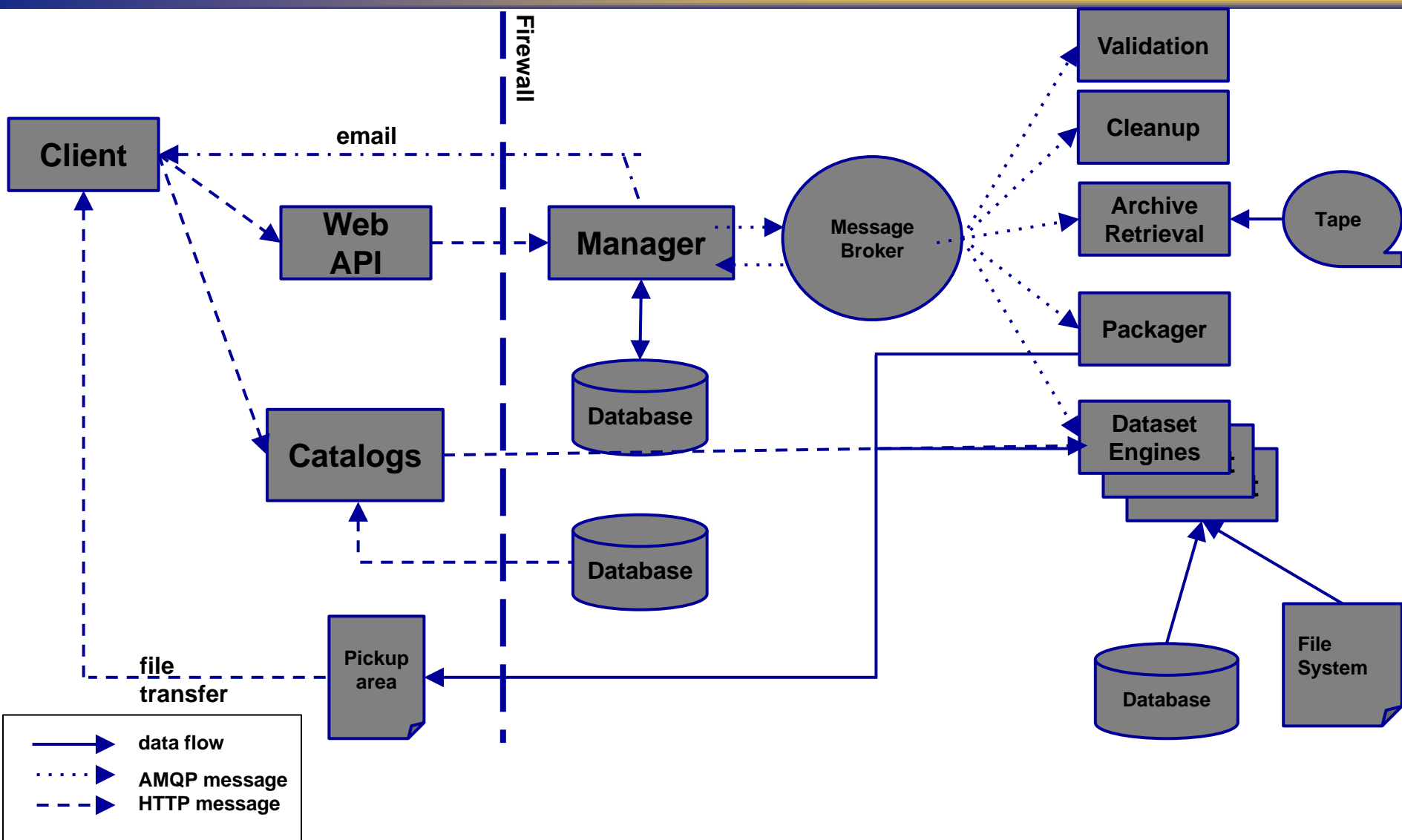
# NGDC Common Ingest Overview





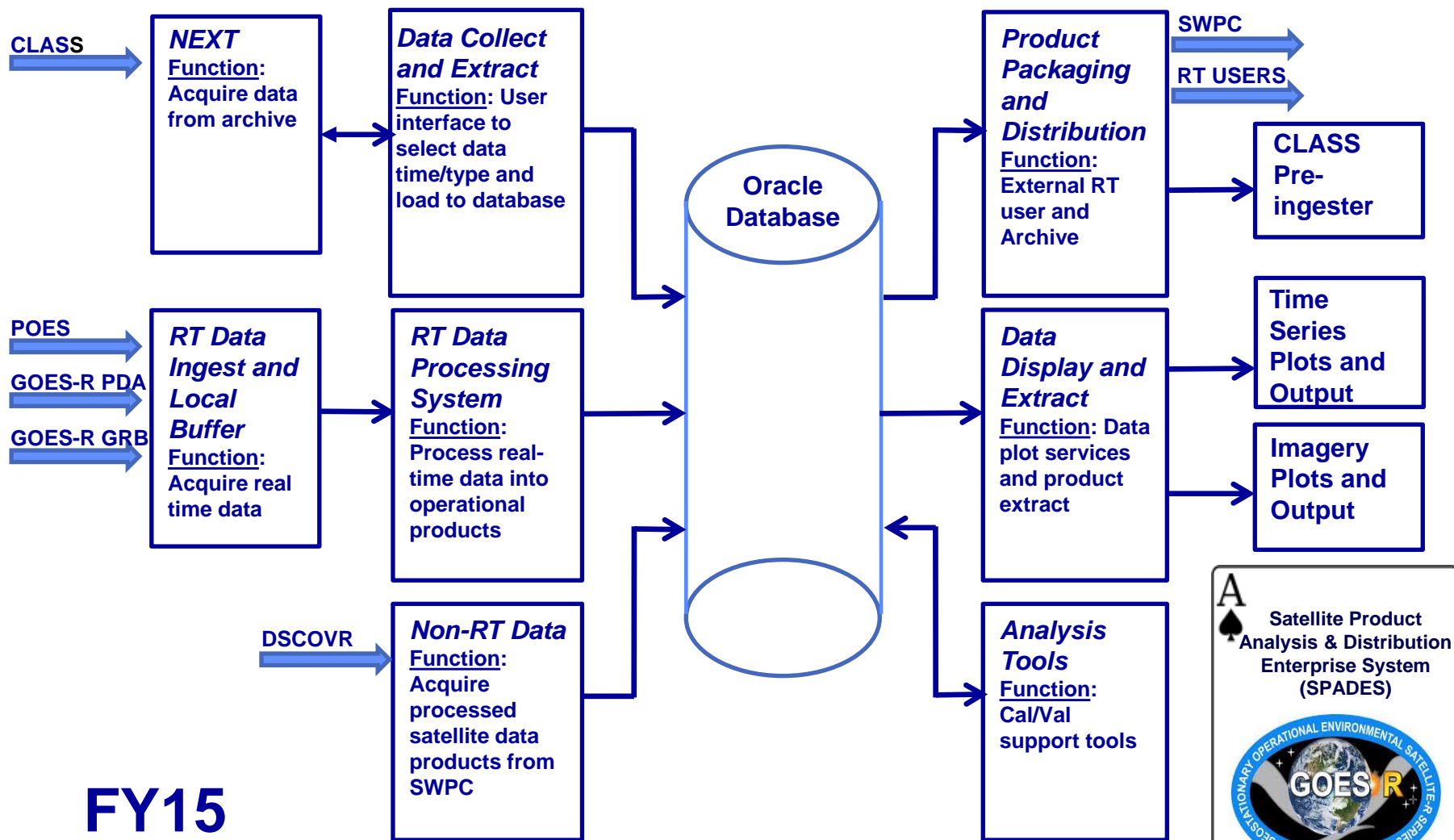


# NEXT System Overview

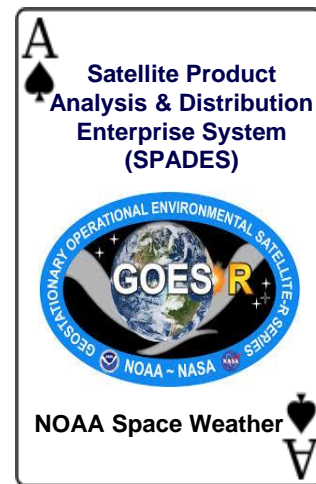




# NGDC Satellite Product Analysis and Distribution Enterprise System (Phase 4 – GOES-R Ops)



FY15





# Future Plans





# Space Weather Team

## Satellite Anomaly Assessments



### Case 1 – Galaxy-15

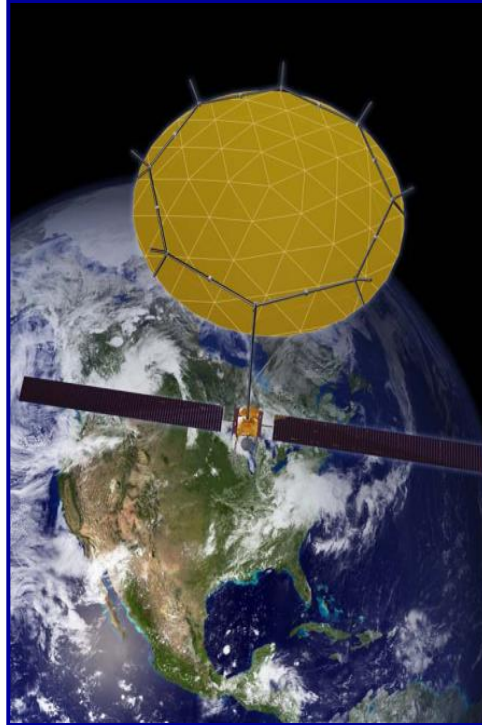
**Orbit: Geosynchronous**

**Anomaly Date:**

**05 April 2010 @09:48**

**Probable Cause:**

***Internal Charging/ESD***



### Case 2 – SkyTerra-1

**Orbit: Geosynchronous**

**Anomaly Date:**

**07 March 2012 @14:43**

**Probable Cause:**

***Single-Event Upset***



### Case 3 – NPP/VIIRS

**Orbit: Polar LEO**

**Anomaly Date:**

**Various**

**Probable Cause:**

***Single-Event Upsets***





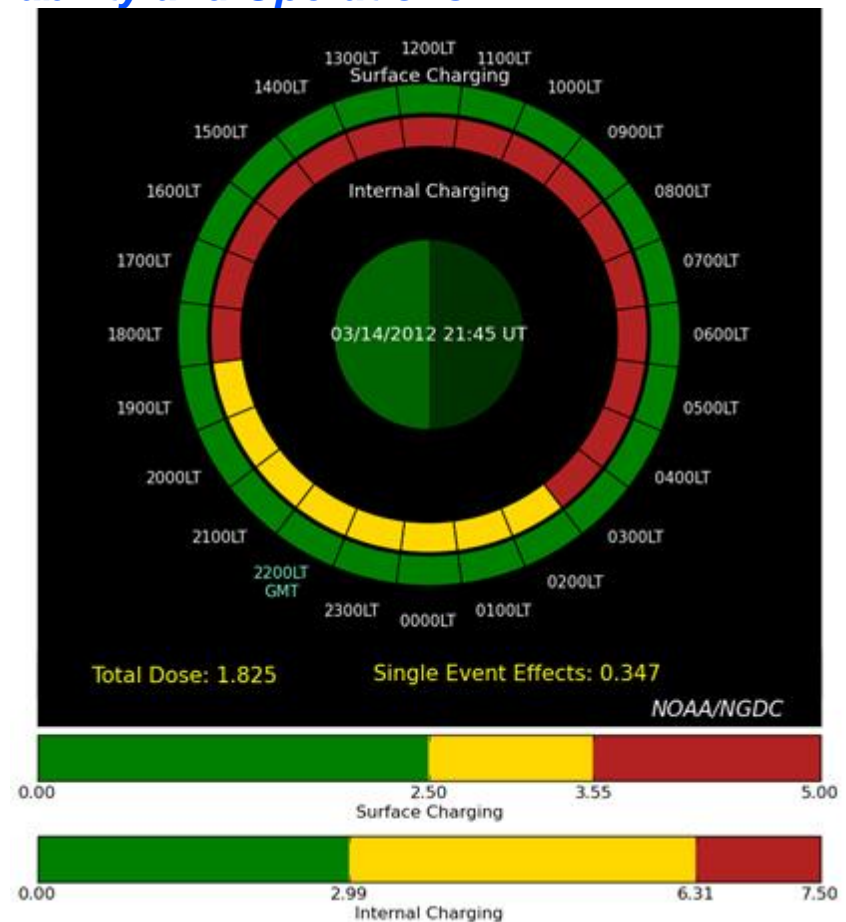
# Satellite Anomaly Environmental Assessment

*Mission: Identify, Assess and Mitigate the Deleterious Effects  
of Space on Satellite Survivability and Operations*

Satellite anomalies are often caused by environmental effects. NGDC will support the development of environmental “packages” to aid assessment teams.

## Actions:

- Develop software capability and supporting infrastructure FY-14/15
- Establish ISO standards for “worst-case” environments as requested by U.S. satellite manufacturers.
- Provide post-mortem environmental assessments for satellite failure review boards. Recent assessments<sup>1</sup> have been conducted for Galaxy-15, SkyTerra-1 and VIIRS.

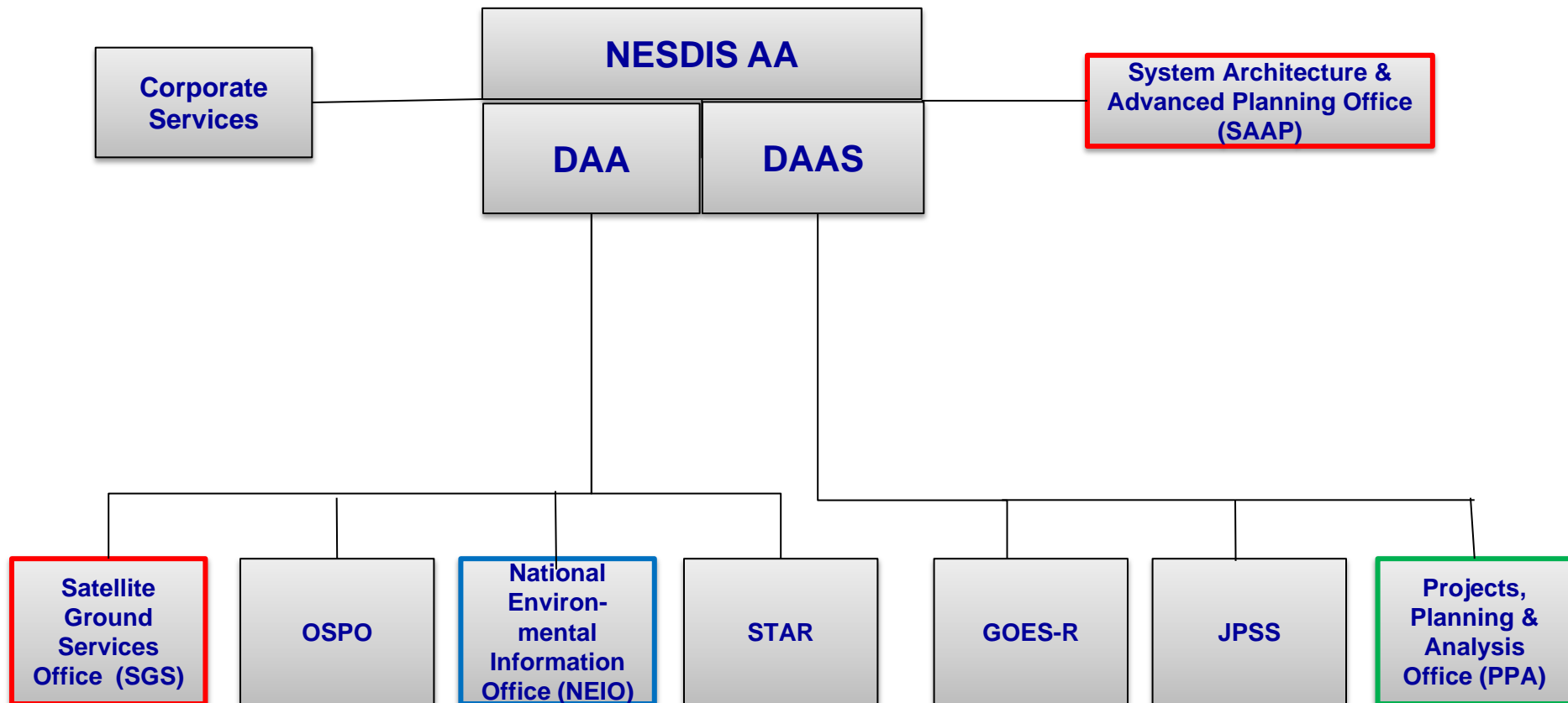


**Space Environment Anomalies Expert  
System Real-Time (SEAESRT)<sup>2</sup>**



# NESDIS Organization

## Strengthening NESDIS



New organizational elements



Data Center Consolidation



Restructured (Formally Office of Systems Development)



# Summary – Take-Aways

- NGDC provides stewardship, archive, and access for a variety of operational space weather data and products from NOAA's existing fleet of environmental satellites (GOES and POES/MetOp)
- A new generation of GOES (R/S/T/U) is coming and will continue to acquire GEO measurements through 2036
- An operational L1 satellite will join the archive in 2015
- After POES/MetOp there are no planned operational (or otherwise) satellites acquiring particle/radiation data in LEO – possible AF initiative (HEALER – Joe Mazer/Aerospace)
- New near-term NOAA operational sources of space weather data include DSCOVR at the L1 Lagrange location and COSMIC-II in LEO – Sunjammer and DSCOVR follow-on are also in the mix
- NGDC has made a significant investment in infrastructure to better serve the space weather community.



# ***Thank You!***

